

Author's Tone

English

DIRECTIONS: Circle the word that expresses the tone present in each passage.

1. Like other apparel, footwear has evolved over the centuries. In ancient times, sandals were the most common footwear. Shoelaces were invented in England in 1790; before then, buckles were the chief means of fastening shoes. Until the mid-nineteenth century, most pairs of shoes consisted of two identical shoes rather than different shoes for left and right.

- a. surprised
- b. playful
- c. matter-of-fact

2. I love you, pasta! I love your angel hair, whether plain blond, wheat brown, or tinted red with tomato. I love you dumpling fat or spaghetti thin. I love you in shells, ribbons, or bows. I love you even if you're twisted. Most of all, I love how inexpensive it is to have you for dinner.

- a. humorous
- b. sympathetic
- c. critical

3. William Shakespeare wrote the most impressive body of plays ever created. He excelled in every aspect of theater: he thoroughly understood acting and production; his plots are brilliantly constructed and gripping; his verse is powerful and beautiful; and his characters are so well-rounded and so carefully detailed that they seem like living people.

- a. sarcastic
- b. encouraging
- c. admiring

4. Answer all questions in Part 2. Clearly indicate the necessary steps in solving each problem, including appropriate formulas and substitutions, diagrams, graphs, charts, calculations, etc. Each correct answer, with work shown, will receive two credits. For all questions in this part, a correct numerical answer with no work shown will receive only one credit.

- a. lighthearted
- b. instructive
- c. warm

5. Woodman, spare that tree!
Touch not a single bough!
In youth it sheltered me,
And I'll protect it now—
My mother kissed me here;
My father pressed my hand.
Forgive this foolish tear,
But let that old tree stand!

- a. sentimental
- b. lighthearted
- c. detached

6. Saudi Arabian women can't vote, participate in government, drive a car, or travel without a man's permission. In public they must keep nearly their entire body covered. Saudi restaurants and other public places have separate sections for women and men, with the women's section usually being considerably less comfortable and attractive. Saudi Arabia systematically discriminates against women, yet the United States is the country's biggest trading partner. What a disgrace!

- a. lighthearted
- b. indignant
- c. friendly

7. I hate Valentine's Day. While many people get Valentine's Day cards, I get only bills and junk mail. A coworker of mine always gets roses. I only get to see her get roses. This year, another coworker brought in a bag of little heart-shaped candies with messages on them. Everyone in the office reached in to take one. Other people got messages like "I love you," "Be mine," and "Be my Valentine." *My* candy heart was broken and blank.

- a. sentimental
- b. objective
- c. bitter

8. With cost, not education, their chief concern, many colleges and universities now hire cheap labor. When their full-time, better-paid teachers retire, they replace them with part-timers. Hired only to teach specific courses, a semester at a time, these instructors are exempt from tenure, promotion, sick leave, and retirement benefits. Some of them are not even given offices where they can meet with their students. This might be good for the bottom line, but it is not fair to the adjuncts or good for education.

- a. affectionate
- b. surprised
- c. critical

9. The number one killer in America is not cancer, accidents, or AIDS. It is heart disease. Make no mistake: cancer and other diseases are real threats, but cardiovascular diseases kill almost twice as many victims as other leading causes of death. The tragedy is compounded because cardiovascular diseases are often inaccurately perceived as diseases of the elderly. On the contrary, approximately 45 percent of heart-attack victims are under the age of sixty-five, and 5 percent are under the age of forty. Adolescents are not exempt from the grim heart-disease picture either. Recently, it was determined that most teenagers (63 percent) already have two or more risk factors for heart disease. The American Heart Association revealed that one in six teenagers and one in three people in their twenties showed evidence of early stages of heart disease.

- a. alarmed
- b. uncertain
- c. apologetic

10. I have the worst life of anyone I know. Yesterday I got stranded in the bus station for six hours because of bad weather. The person behind the ticket window didn't even care that I would be late getting to my parents' house. After a while, I got hungry, but there was no place nearby where I could have a bite to eat. So I had to munch on something from the vending machine, and it gave me a stomachache. I sat down on one of the hard plastic seats and stared at the clock while my intestines rumbled. It seemed that things couldn't get much worse. But then I saw her walk in, and she recognized me immediately. Of all the people to run into at that moment, it had to be Marjorie. She hadn't gained an ounce since we double-dated to the prom together ten years ago. She looked as slim as a teenaged model, and I look like a walking beachball. She sat down next to me and wanted to know all about my life since high school. Everything I said made me sound like a complete loser. When she stood up to catch her bus, I could tell she was relieved to get away from me. I would be relieved to get away from me, too.

- a. self-pitying
- b. accepting
- c. worried